

**Duxbury's**

**Homegrown**

**Dahlen Building and Landscaping**

**BY CLIPPER STAFF**

When it comes to Duxbury, Shawn Dahlen knows his way around. "I love the town and I'm active in the community," he said. "There's a joke around town that I hardly ever leave Duxbury."

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Dahlen grew up in Duxbury, moving to town in 1962 and attending Duxbury schools. While in his junior year at Duxbury High School, he began landscaping around town as a way to make money during time off from school. As a student, he began mowing lawns and doing yard cleanup, starting what would eventually become a flourishing business reaching far beyond the town lines.

After graduating from Duxbury High School in 1971, Dahlen attended Wentworth College of Technology and received a bachelor's degree in Engineering Management, Engineering and Business in

1975. Dahlen focused on growing his business, now widely known around town as Shawn Dahlen & Co., Inc. The company specializes in the construction of residential homes, renovations and additions, including planning, permitting and construction of waterfront projects. To improve the quality of his business — and the services it provides — Dahlen began working with colleagues of his who were carpenters. In 1980, the carpenters were working on a project in Cohasset and required some blasting to be done. While working towards his engineering degree, Dahlen had learned how to blast. His work on that project sparked his desire to add home construction to his company's services, reaching an even wider demographic and providing the foundation for a company that would continue to grow.

For Dahlen & Co., there is no job too big, and certainly no job too small.

"We go from doing small jobs to building \$2 million homes," Dahlen said.

Speaking of large projects, Dahlen and his employees recently began working on a home for the offensive coordinator for the Miami Dolphins.

When asked why he has kept Duxbury as his home base for the past 45 years, he said the town provides a unique opportunity for service-type businesses, which is right up his alley.

“We have a great base of residents within the community,” Dahlen said. “If you broaden your ability to deliver different services, then you’re expanding your ability to serve.”



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